

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Ding *et al.*

Application No.: to be assigned

Group Art Unit: to be assigned

Filed: February 7, 2002

Examiner: to be assigned

For: MEDICAL DEVICE WITH SPONGE
COATING FOR CONTROLLED
DRUG RELEASE

Attorney Docket No.: 10177-111-999
Divisional of application serial no:
09/060,071, filed April 14, 1998

#2A
ARIVERS
3/3/02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.115

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants respectfully request that the following amendment and remarks be made of record in the above-identified application. Annexed hereto as Exhibit A which is a set of marked-up claims and Exhibit B which is a set of pending claims after entry of the amendment.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-13, and 34-46 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the canceled subject matters in one or more related applications.

Please amend claim 16 to recite as follows:

16. (Amended) The catheter of claim 14 wherein the void space of the sponge coating is greater than about 60% of the volume of the sponge coating.

REMARKS

Claims 14-33 appear in the present application for the Examiner's consideration. Claim 16 has been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the present invention. Specifically claim 16 has been amended to recite that the void space of the sponge coating is greater than about 60% of the volume of the sponge coating. Support